

**Testimony of Pamela Elkow submitted to the Executive and Legislative  
Nominations Committee  
February 11, 2016**

Good day Senator Duff, Representative Janowski, Senator Kane, Representative Buck-Taylor and members of the Executive and Legislative Nominations Committee. My name is Pamela Elkow. It is a true honor and privilege to be appointed by Governor Dannel P. Malloy as a member of the Board of Directors of the Connecticut Port Authority.

Thank you all for the opportunity to appear before you to talk about my desire to serve on the Board of Directors of the Port Authority.

I'm a Connecticut native. My parents moved to Connecticut from Brooklyn a few months before I was born, and they still live in the same house in Ridgefield. Except for time attending college and law school, I've spent my life in Connecticut. I live in Redding, with my husband, Daniel Barrett, who is a professor at Western Connecticut State University. My daughter Hannah is a recent graduate of UConn law school working in Wallingford for a nonprofit representing victims of violent crimes.

After I graduated from law school, I moved back to Connecticut and began working at Robinson & Cole in Stamford, practicing environmental law. As an environmental attorney, I've represented both private parties and municipalities, focusing on remediation and brownfield redevelopment. I was elected a partner at Robinson & Cole in 2000 and served as its pro bono partner, diversity partner and on its management committee. In 2015, I moved to the firm of Carmody, Torrance, Sandak & Hennessey, as it seeks to grow its office in Stamford and its environmental practice.

My interest in serving on the Board of Directors of the newly created Connecticut Port Authority stems from work I did many years ago. One of my clients was the Bridgeport Port Authority, whom I represented when it acquired the property formerly owned and operated by Carpenter Technology, a former steel plant. I worked with the Port Authority to remediate the property and reposition it for reuse. It was a lesson in the economic development opportunities afforded port authorities, which are different than other economic development entities. Given the nature of Connecticut, I continue to represent clients that are on the coast, such as the developers of Steele Point, and see the opportunities in the coast and more importantly, our ports and harbors. I had the honor of serving on the Port Authority working group and heard firsthand from a wide variety of stakeholders about the economic development potential of the ports and harbors of Connecticut, which will only be improved and enhanced by the coordinated effort of the newly created Connecticut Port Authority.

I am an optimist and I continue to believe in Connecticut. We have significant resources that can and should help us to grow our economy. One of those resources is our ports and harbors. I'm excited to be part of those efforts by serving on the Board of Directors of the Connecticut Port Authority.

Thank you again for the opportunity to speak to you today.